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Vol. 44 No. 323 Pages: 12 Rs. 2.00
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Padayatra suspended

Rally turns super-spreader as virus infects several senior Congress party leaders; Foot march to resume from Ramanagara after third wave subsides; Heavy Police bandobust at Ramanagara

Bengaluru, Jan. 13 (KMS & BCT)- The Karnataka Congress this noon decided to postpone its 10-day contentious Mekedatu *padayatra*, a day after the State Government, pulled up by the High Court, ordered an immediate ban on the Opposition party's rally which was taking place despite a massive surge in the State's daily COVID-19 cases. The *padayatra,* which began on Jan. 9, was to culminate in Bengaluru on Jan. 19.

The decision was taken after party leaders participating in the march, including KPCC President D.K. Shivakumar and former Chief Minister Siddharamaiah, held a meeting in Ramanagara to discuss the future course of the *padayatra.*

"We are not stopping because of the Government orders. We are stopping because of concern towards people. In Bengaluru, the cases are rising, and lakhs would have gathered for the programme. So we discussed the matter and we are temporarily stopping the Mekedatu *padayatra*. When the COVID-19 restrictions are eased, we will continue the *padayatra* from here (Ramanagara)," Shivakumar said.

"Till now we have done the *padayatra* successfully. Today, the fifth day had to start from Ramanagara and we were to go through the Bengaluru-Mysuru Highway. Yesterday when we saw how many have been infected in Bengaluru, the cases were more than 15,000. We are a political party, an old political party which has ruled in the State and country. We have responsibilities," he said.

Siddharamaiah alleged that members of the Congress party have been falsely booked for allegedly flouting COVID-19 rules at the rally. Earlier this morning, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) cancelled the permission given for the valedictory of the event at National College Grounds on Jan. 19.

(See PADAYATRA on page 6)

Rs. 25 crore road repair grants create split in MCC

Mysuru, Jan. 13 (MK&BCT)- A section of Corporators have appealed to the Mysuru Deputy Commissioner to stop the action plan to repair roads under the Rs. 25 crore special grants released by the Government. Reason: They have claimed that the works have not been allocated properly and the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) has acted in a partial manner favourable only to certain localities.

This move has triggered a war of words between the Corporators and Mayor Sunanda Palanetra, who has said that if the action plan is prevented, there is a danger of the Rs. 25 crore going back to the Government treasury.

Almost all the roads in Mysuru city have been damaged due to incessant rains after October last year and only now the rains have stopped.

As such, the Mayor had appealed to the State Government for a grant of Rs. 50 crore. Responding positively, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai agreed to release Rs. 25 crore in the first phase and accordingly, the MCC was asked to prepare an action plan.

(See ROAD on page 7)

Grants will go back: Mayor

Reacting to over 30 Corporators taking objection to the action plan, Mayor Sunanda Palanetra said that she had convinced the State Government to release the grants as roads were severely damaged.

"This Rs. 25 crore that has been released under Special Finance Commission is only the first phase and in all, Rs. 50 crore will be released and all the roads that have been damaged will be repaired in phases. Wherever I go, people used to ask me about the damaged roads and civic amenities and this is the reason why I met the CM with a demand of Rs. 50 crore," she said.

"Already Rs. 25 crore has been released as per the action plan and the rest of the Rs. 25 crore would have come after the tenders for this work are called for. If there is opposition, this Rs. 25 crore will go back to the Government and the rest of the funds will be cancelled. I had plans to allocate money to all the 65 Wards for road works but if the opposition continues, we will not get a single rupee," she said.

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Thursday 13th January 2022

Senior Rocket Scientist Somanath appointed as ISRO Chairman

Bengaluru, Jan. 13- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) announced on Wednesday the appointment of the eminent rocket scientist Dr. S. Somanath as its new Chairman and Space Secretary.

He will succeed Kailasavadivoo Sivan, who completes his extended tenure on Friday.

Dr. Somanath is taking over the reins of ISRO at a critical juncture when sweeping reforms and critical missions are set to define the forward journey of the storied space agency.

Commenting on his priorities, Dr. Somanath said that space sector reforms, which involves hand-holding the private sector and start-ups so that they emerge as key partners in the sector's development, find a top spot on his list.

"We have to hold their hand and support them to come up. The idea is that the space ecosystem should become more vibrant, economically viable and self-sustaining. IN-SPACe is defining a new model, which is also designed to expand our space economy. The 16,000-crore

Dr. S. Somanath

space economy that we have in India today should grow to a 60,000-crore space economy," said Dr. Somanath, who has been serving as the Director of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) and the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST).

The senior scientist is also taking over at a time when ISRO has numerous missions and projects — the Gaganyaan human spaceflight mission included — waiting in the wings. Further, the COVID-19 has played havoc with ISRO's schedules over the past two years, setting another challenge.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Usually, the tweets of Rahul Gandhi — the mostly non-resident leader of the Congress party — do not merit serious attention. However, on 28th December 2021, while tweeting to mark the Foundation Day of India's GOP, Rahul claimed that Congress is a party "which laid the foundation of our democracy & we are proud of this legacy." This outrageous claim needs to be contested. This is not only too far from the facts but also smacks of arrogance. What he claims also amounts to an insult to our people and India's great civilisational ethos.

This is because thousands of years before the emergence of the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty, India came to be known almost as the global capital of spiritual democracy. The philosophy of Ekam Sat Viprah Bahuda Vadanti (the truth is one and wise men describe the same differently) has been the cornerstone of the Indian world view. Obviously then, outsiders entering India not only enjoyed complete freedom to practise their religion but were also allowed to propagate their way of worship and even convert people to their fold. While claiming that his party laid the platform for democracy in India, Rahul has ignored the basic foundational thought behind our pluralist traditions. Congress leaders must understand that their party laid the foundation, not of democracy in India but of dynastic politics of the worst kind — and thereby the process of perversion of democracy.

— Vinay Sahasrabuddhe in The New Indian Express

NEWS SPARKLERS

Woman marries pink colour after dating it

California: A woman married pink colour after dating it for more than 40 years, in a bizarre ceremony that made history and is believed to be the first of its kind.

Kitten Kay Sera is known as "The pinkest person in the world". She made headlines in 2018 when it was revealed that she had spent more than 1 million pounds on her monochromatic house and wardrobe. She married the colour after she got the idea from a child, who suggested she marry the colour because she likes it so much.

Her love affair started almost by accident on her 20th birthday, when she tried to work out what to wear to her party. She settled on a pink top, pink fluffy skirt, pink shoes and pink accessories. "I felt fantastic. I thought; if wearing so much pink can make me feel fantastic, why not wear pink every day?"

Human hair ball weighing 225 lbs breaks record

Cambridge: A massive ball of hair weighing a whooping 225.13 pounds has entered the Guinness Book of World Records. Guinness World Records notes that the weight of the hairball "is equivalent to 300 cans of soup or 15 bowling balls!"

The hairball was created by Steve Warden, owner of Blockers Salon, who said his son was the one who inspired him to start collecting other people's hair.

Using clippings from customer's hair, Warden created the massive 225.13 lb ball of hair. Hoss was officially weighed in December and certified at 225.13 pounds, breaking the record of 167 pounds set by Missouri barber Henry Coffer in 2014.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Balanced Diet of a Child

Should contain varieties of fresh food from each of 5 food groups mentioned below. Fruits, Vegetable, Cereals, Dairy, Protein

By Dr Anilkumar Y. C. - Consultant – Paediatrician
Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

IAS Officers Dr. M.R. Ravi and B. Sharat get postings

Bengaluru, Jan. 13 (KMS&DM)- The Government on Wednesday assigned posts to IAS Officers Dr. M.R. Ravi and B. Sharat, who were awaiting new posting following their transfer.

Dr. M.R. Ravi, who served as Chamarajanagar Deputy Commissioner for nearly 21 months, was transferred late last year without posting, ahead of the Legislative Council polls from Local Authorities Constituency held in December last, while B. Sharat was shunted out as Mysuru Deputy Commissioner just one month into his service in 2020.

Though Sharat was posted as MD of Karnataka Silk Industries Corporation (KSIC), he had not assumed charge and had waged a legal battle

Dr. M.R. Ravi

B. Sharat

questioning his premature transfer as Mysuru DC.

Dr. Ravi has now been posted as Managing Director of Karnataka State Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KSIIDC) at Bengaluru, while B. Sharat has been appointed as BBMP (Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike) Special Commissioner.

The two are among the five IAS Officers who got new postings on Wednesday.

REALLY...?

- *There could be more plastic than fish in the ocean by 2050.*
- *Up to 95% of plastic polluting oceans is carried by 10 rivers.*
- *99% of seabirds will be eating plastic by 2050.*
- *The average person eats 70,000 microplastics each year.*
- *The average time that a plastic bag is used is just 12 minutes.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Teacher: *Suppose, you have a box which contains a 10 foot snake…*

Student: *But Sir, snakes don't have feet!!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 73.93
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 101.37
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.13
1 Euro	= Rs. 84.59

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

	JANUARY 11	JANUARY 12
Day's Positive Cases	562	524
Total Positive Cases	1,82,201	1,82,725
Day's Discharges	32	114
Total Discharges	1,77,904	1,78,018
Day's Deaths	0	1
Total Deaths	2,429	2,430
Total Active Cases	1,868	2,277

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

SAMSUNG

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15% cashback (Max ₹ 9000)

1+1 year panel warranty

10 year no screen burn-in warranty

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Get* Galaxy Tab A7 (LTE) worth ₹ 21999**

15% cashback (Max ₹ 9000)

1+1 year panel warranty

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Available at your nearest consumer electronics store and at Samsung SmartPlaza.

NEWS BRIEFS

Kodava hockey tourney withdrawn

The Kodava Family Cup Hockey tournament has been withdrawn this year too owing to COVID. The annual event was scheduled to be hosted by the Appachattolanda family. The Appachattolanda family members conducted a meeting and decided to withdraw the Family Cup Hockey Festival this year. However, Kodava Hockey Academy Secretary Ammunichanda Ravi Uthappa said they have not yet officially received any letter from the family.

State shines at India Skills-2021

Karnataka secured 24 medals in the India Skills-2021 Competition at the National Skill Exhibition held in Delhi recently. The State won eight gold, eight silver, four bronze and four medallions of excellence in the high-performance category. The competition was organised by National Skill Development Corporation under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India. The India Skills Competition is the largest skill competition in the country with over 500 competitors from 26 States and Union Territories.

Aadhaar Seva Kendra

The Aadhaar Seva Kendra at Saraswathipuram will remain closed on Jan. 14 on the occasion of Makara Sankranti. However, Aadhaar Seva Kendra at Vijayanagar will remain open on Jan. 14. All persons coming to the Kendra are requested to produce their vaccination certificate.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM

Maximum	:	124.80 feet
Today	:	123.06 feet
Yesterday	:	123.10 feet
Inflow	:	1,022 cusecs
Outflow	:	1,448 cusecs

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	2,284.00 feet
Today	:	2,283.02 feet
Inflow	:	254 cusecs
Outflow	:	400 cusecs

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	2,859.00 feet
Today	:	2,855.95 feet
Inflow	:	348 cusecs
Outflow	:	50 cusecs

Huge tree crashes, two electric poles damaged

Mysuru, Jan. 13 (SPN&BCT)- Two two-wheelers were damaged and two electric poles came crashing as a giant tree fell on Jodi Thenginamara Road near Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Circle (Highway Circle) here last evening. Fortunately no one was injured though it was a peak hour.

The incident occurred at around 3 pm and generally, the road is busy with vehicles, trucks and other regular commuters. The tree had become hollow and the trunk was not in a position to withstand the weight of the branches.

The tree collapsed on a bike and a scooter that were parked under it. As the tree fell on the electric wire passing through the road, two cement poles broke into two pieces. Personnel from Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC) disconnected the power supply. Traffic on the road was blocked for some time and vehicles had to take a roundabout route to reach their destinations.

The Abhaya team of the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) rushed to the spot and cut the tree into pieces to make way for smooth traffic.

CESC staff too restored the snapped wires and replaced the broken poles with new ones. Both the MCC and CESC employees were able to clear the mess on the road after more than one hour.

G.T. Devegowda directs officials to address people's problems quickly

Mysuru, Jan.13 (PM&DM)- Asking the officials to address the grievances of people without wasting any time, Chamundeshwari MLA G.T. Devegowda (GTD) directed the officials to remove silt and all other blockages in Rajakaluves.

The MLA was on an inspection spree of localities on Tuesday, during which the residents aired their grievances.

GTD who visited RCE Layout, Susheela Shankaranagar and other Layouts adjacent to Vijayanagar Fourth Stage, heard public grievances, who complained of indiscrete dumping of wastes and construction debris in Rajakaluves.

Responding to the pleas, the MLA instructed the officials to clear all wastes in order to facilitate smooth flow of water and also to ensure that the drains do not overflow during heavy rains.

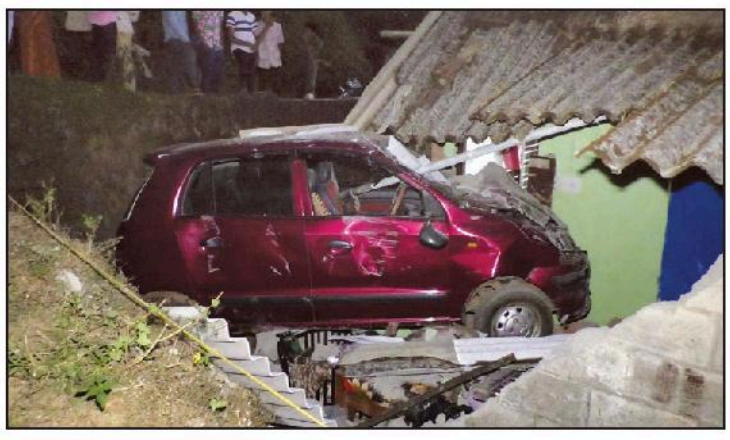
Replying to another allegation of residents that drain water is being let into Rajakaluves, he said that the concerned officials must take suitable action in this regard at the earliest.

Later, GTD visited Rajajinagar's Ashraya Layout and Alpine Layout during which he directed the officials to clear drainages, undertake road development works and provide Kabini water.

The MLA further said that the works on the 30 MLD Kabini drinking water project is underway and water will be provided to the localities once the works are completed. MCC Commissioner G. Lakshmikantha Reddy, who is also, MUDA In-charge Commissioner, Bogadi Town Panchayat EO Vijaykumar, MUDA SE Shankar, EEs' Sunil and Mohan, MCC SE Mahesh, VVWW EE Suvarna,Hootagalli CMC Commissioner Narasimhamurthy, Srirampura Town Panchayat EO Sridhar, Rammanahalli Town Panchayat EO Pushpalatha, MCC Zone 3 Assistant Commissioner Satyamurthy and others were present.

Wall collapses as car ploughs into house

Madikeri, Jan. 13 (KS)- A car ploughed into a house after the man behind the wheels of the car lost control while proceeding downhill resulting in the wall of the house completely collapsing and the car getting heavily damaged. The incident took place at Thyagaraja Colony here recently. As there were no one in the house, no injuries or fatalities took place. The occupants of the car escaped with minor injuries.



MBBS drop-out ends life

Mysuru, Jan. 13 (MK&DM)- An MBBS drop-out ended his life by hanging self in his room at Medar Block here on Wednesday.

Mukesh (32) is the deceased MBBS student who had dropped out in the final year. Mukesh, who was said to be suffering from a serious intestinal ailment, is learnt to have taken this extreme step as he could not recover. Mandi Police have registered a case in this regard.

Elderly woman's chain snatched

Mysuru, Jan. 13 (MK&DM)- An elderly woman was robbed of her 35 gram gold chain in the city on Wednesday.

Padma, 60, a resident of Netajinagar, was on an evening walk near Doctors Community Hall close to her residence at Netajinagar, when a bike-borne miscreant managed to yank off her chain and fled in a flash.

The jurisdictional Alanahalli Police have registered a case in this regard and are investigating.

VOICE OF THE READER

Set right the inconvenience to Rail passengers

Sir,

I underwent some inconvenience during last week while travelling in the train from Davanagere to Mysuru and today from Mysuru to Bengaluru.

Thanks to Indian Railways for immense facilities and comforts provided to its commuters in Railway Stations and inside the trains. But many a time, the coach halting display and the stoppage of similar coach differs on platforms and commuters have to rush towards their coach which is one or two coaches here and there. Exact halt of the train in platforms as per display have to be ensured with strict instructions to the Engine Pilots.

The battery vehicle is also not being put to proper use. The driver of the battery vehicle will not lift the phone. I request the Railway authorities to see that the driver receives the phone and accommodate on priority that passenger who had called him.

The driver also refuses to ferry senior citizens if they carry one or two luggage bags or trolleys. How can the passenger travel without luggage?

Even though the vehicle has to run free of cost, I recommend the Railways to charge a specific amount to carry the passengers from platform to main entrance of the Station.

I also request the Railways to increase the number of vehicles which may cater to the need of passengers during peak hours.

Regarding *'Where is my train app'* I must say that it is a wonderful tool to passengers with many information, which shows the location, time, distance, speed etc. But for some trains like Dharwad-Mysuru night express, exact coach position is not revealed and even the coach positions if revealed would be different. The platform shown in the app and the exact platform where the train is stationed in platform would be different.

For example, the platform for train 12610 MGR Chennai Central SF was shown as 6 till I reached Mysuru Railway Station and came to know that the train was stationed in platform 3, which made me to run carrying my luggage. I suggest for updating of information as and when change is there.

Also the concessions provided to senior passengers in respect of train fare was stopped along with the stoppage of trains due to COVID-19. However, the functioning of Railways have now been resumed in full swing. Passengers are being levied more fare inserting the tag 'Special or Super Fast', even though it takes the same time as earlier.

On behalf of senior citizens, I request that the concessions as earlier may please be resumed.

—K.P. Pradyumna
Srirampura 2nd Stage
12.1.2022

Trendy marker pens to replace indelible ink vials soon

- Election Commission seeks availability, reliability and usage of pens
- MPVL to earn Rs. 8.9 crore by supplying vials for Assembly elections in five States

Mysuru, Jan. 13 (SPN&BCT)- The indelible ink vials manufactured by the Mysore Paints and Varnish Limited (MPVL) for marking the fingers of those casting their votes will soon be relegated into history as the company will in future manufacture trendy marker pens for the same purpose.

Phaneesh

The MPVL, also called MyLAC, is the sole supplier of ink for elections. The Election Commission has already asked the MPVL about the availability, reliability and also the usage of the pens and the Commission has confirmed that it wants to use indelible pens henceforth, **MPVL Chairman N.V. Phaneesh** told *Star of Mysore*.

The MPVL has already done its research way back in 2017 and has produced pens that were submitted to the Election Commission for approval. Phaneesh said that the Commission was impressed by the trendy pens and the company is giving final touches to incorporate improvements and suggestions asked by the Election Commission.

The MPVL has developed marker pens with technical support from National Physical Laboratory, National Research Development Corporation and the National Chemical Laboratory on the technology, the colour combination and the texture of the ink. Each pen could be used to mark 1,000 voters.

When compared to the indelible ink vials, the marker pens are convenient, user-friendly and economical. Sometimes, while transporting, the indelible ink vials leak and there were complaints of wastage and spill-over. With the marker pens there are no such fears and it is convenient to carry and to apply on fingers. Moreover, it also saves the time of polling booth officials.

It may be mentioned here that these specially designed marker pens were used in the 2017 Presidential elections where 1,000 pens were supplied to mark the ballot papers. Only such votes that had the markings from the pen were considered valid. In the past, 389 such pens were supplied to Legislative Council Elections of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and 794 marker pens were supplied to Co-operative Societies elections.

Phaneesh said that for the forthcoming Assembly elections in five States — Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Manipur, Goa and Punjab — the respective State Election Commissions have placed orders for indelible ink and 5,04,000 vials have been produced at MPVL, and except for Uttar Pradesh that has sought 4 lakh vials, the requirements of all the other States have been fulfilled, he said.

While 62,000 vials have been sent to Punjab, 5,000 vials to Goa, Manipur has got 7,400 vials and 30,000 vials have been sent to Uttarakhand. The vials will be sent to Uttar Pradesh in another three days, Phaneesh added. This fresh order enabled MPVL to gain an additional income of Rs. 8.9 crore.

"Since 1962, we have always supplied indelible ink on time. We work overtime to fulfil the order commitment and we have not failed in even a single schedule so far and we do not intend to fail," he said.

Obituary

Jayamma

Mysuru, Jan. 13- Jayamma

(80), wife of late Nanjappa and a resident of Hinkal Hundi street in the city, passed away here yesterday. She leaves behind her son M.N. Nanjundaswamy, a Police Head Constable and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were performed at Mukthidhama in Vijayanagar Fourth Stage on Wednesday evening.

Yajaman H. Kariyappa

Yajaman H. Kariyappa (98), a resident of Paduvarahalli, passed away yesterday night. He leaves behind three sons, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held at Chirashanthidhama in Gokulam today.

Pandira Thangamma

Hunsur: Pandira Thangamma (75), wife of late Poovaiah, passed away today at her residence on Narasimhaswamy Thittu Layout here, following brief illness.

She leaves behind two daughters Sumathi Chandru (working at Shastri School) & Sunitha (St. Joseph's Convent) and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held today, according to a family sources.

FC details of some vehicles unavailable on RTO website

Vehicle owners allege harassment by Police while checking documents

Mysuru, Jan. 13 (RK&BCT)- Several vehicle owners in the city have complained that as the information of Fitness Certificate (FC) expiry date of some of their vehicles is missing in the RTO website, they are being harassed by the Police Department while checking their vehicles.

Policemen resort to checking vehicle documents at all major roads, junctions and circles. While checking the documents, the vehicle owners are supposed to produce physical documents of their vehicle and also the Registration Certificate (RC). But the RC is cross-checked by the Police on the RTO website.

Usually, the details of the vehicle, name of the owner, registration and the FC information is entered in the RC. By checking the website, the Police want to ensure the genuineness of the vehicle and also match it with the RTO website. But sometimes due to non-upload of the data and due to technical glitches, some vehicle data is not available on the website and this is causing problems.

Vehicle owners have alleged that despite having valid documents and in spite of the FC being well within the expiry date, they are being harassed by the Police during the vehicle document checking drive.

"Police do not trust what is printed on the RC book or card. Even if the RC card is produced, they fully rely on the information available in the RTO website and if the information is missing from the website, vehicle owners are being harassed," a vehicle owner alleged adding that he had a similar experience with the Insurance agency too which refused to renew the policy.

RTO clarifies

However, Transport Department officers clarified that there might be some technical glitches for the information to be missing on the RTO website. "That too only in rare cases the FC details of certain vehicles will be missing. But the M-Parivahan website will have all the details of all the vehicles and the confusion would be sorted out," the officials added.

Abracadabra...

By K.B. Ganapathy

Long March of a Malayali Boy From Darkness to Light ! –2

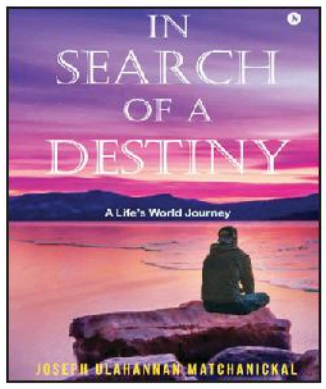
You are the architect of your life — Swami Vivekananda

[Continued from yesterday]

Joseph was not sure of success with the Bishop but mustered courage and knocked the door. "Knock and it shall be opened unto you." Is it not written so in the Bible? The door opened and Joseph was welcomed with a warm smile by the Holy Father even as Joseph, an intelligent man of perseverance, kissed Bishop's ring. He was offered a chair and he introduced himself as a Professor of the nearby college and then proceeded to explain his predicament. The Bishop listened to him patiently, asked a few questions about Fulbright Scholarship programme. Without much ado, he called his treasurer, a priest, and asked him to take Joseph to the Bank and transfer the money. A turning point? Luck? Joseph writes, "I felt that I had just visited God the Father himself."

As I was turning the pages of the book, I realised that more than the 'turning points' and 'luck', it was his brilliant, top performance in school and colleges that enabled him to reach those 'turning points' and be blessed with 'luck'. Indeed it is said, 'luck is when preparation meets opportunity.' Joseph was academically well-prepared. Opportunity presented itself. Naturally, luck followed him like shadow! Joseph, from what I found in the book, was brainy and also hard-working to match the level of other more brainy students like, as he mentions, one Kannan.

From chapter five of the book, it was about his life in US, University of Minnesota. He worked part-time as a scholar at Columbia Hospital. So his bank account went up and he had enough money to pay all his debts, specially the loan that he had taken, nay gotten, from Bishop Patroni. What a gesture! He paid his Uncle Kurian too. He began sending money home to build a good house, educate his brothers. I have heard, that in many cases, such as this, the beneficiary of another's generosity and help, often ignores or forgets the help given by the benefactor — a case of 'out of sight is out of mind'. But in case of Joseph, it did not happen that way. A noble man, indeed. Responsible man, certainly.



Cover page of the book

Author Joseph Matchanicka

After graduating, he went to Michigan State University (MSU) for a Ph.D Degree. He works as a teacher for income and completes his Ph.D. Interestingly, he gets a job in Venezuela, Latin America, when he had gone to meet his friend who was studying with him in US. This, before completing the Ph.D. Luck? Of course, he completes his Ph.D. And, life in Venezuela begins...

It makes more interesting reading hereafter. To survive in the job he learns a new language, Spanish. He earns more than he expected. After one year in Venezuela, he visits his parents in India. Now aged 33, he gets married to Melody in just one week's time! After a week, both flew to Venezuela.

The life with Melody and his job were all very interestingly narrated. He got his first child who died at birth. Over the years, three more children, one boy and two girls, were born. It was kind of a roller-coaster life that one reads here. No wonder, he had a sort of nervous breakdown three times in those years. They visit India after a few years with children.

The book tells about the business of petroleum production and marketing in some detail. Venezuela's major, 80%, export income is from petroleum. He was enjoying a good job, good pay and good life. No wonder, his brothers used to call him the "Venezuelan Sheik" and many of them travelled to visit him.

Joseph writes about his meeting, of all persons in the world, Mother Teresa at the Indian Embassy in Caracas, the capital of Venezuela, where she was waiting, with Mother Teresa Sisters sitting on a bench, to be attended!! Mother, had a centre (houses) in Venezuela. Service to mankind across the world.

Joseph gambled in Agriculture too and lost. But a lesson learnt. Enjoyed the experiment! Over the years, his three younger brothers were living in New York. Apparently, he must have helped them.

Joseph writes about his visit to India to attend the wedding of a niece. After the wedding, they made a pilgrimage to Velankanni, the shrine of the Blessed Virgin which got a direct hit by the tsunami. He writes: *"When the tsunami struck, ten of my cousins were visiting the shrine. Eight of them were inside the Church attending mass, and the other two were outside the Church shopping souvenirs. All the people inside the Church were saved, as not a drop of water entered it. The two cousins outside the Church ran and escaped."*

The reason, he says, *"The waves that came through the front of the Church were weak and stopped at its steps."*

All his children are married and has nine grandchildren. While Joseph and his wife returned to their roots in Kottayam, Kerala, his children have become part of the diaspora and will bloom wherever they are planted. Son of Kerala, Uduppan is happily back home.

The book is a good read for South Indians, specially.

Is there an invisible hand of destiny in everybody's life? This is the question staring me in the face, as I closed the book.

e-mail
voice@starofmysore.com

Padayatra suspended

(Continued from page 1)

Chief Minister makes personal appeal

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai this morning made a personal appeal to Siddharamaiah and Shivakumar to end their foot march. "I am ready to take all measures towards implementing the Mekedatu project by taking all of you into confidence," Bommai said in a statement addressed to Siddharamaiah and Shivakumar.

"The third wave of the Coronavirus has intensified, which has affected people, especially children," Bommai said. "This being the situation, it's not right from a public health point-of-view to get people out together in large numbers for a *padayatra* and things like that. Even the High Court has taken a strong view on this, which also reflects the sentiment of the public," he said.

"So, drop the *padayatra* now and let's face the pandemic together. In the coming days, let's unitedly take steps on implementing Mekedatu," Bommai said.

Police ready to take action

Hours before the Congress made the announcement of the *padayatra's* suspension, a high-level meeting of top Police officials was held in Ramanagara where it was decided to stop Congress from continuing the *yatra* from Ramanagara to Bengaluru. The Police had planned to stop the march either at Ramanagara or near Bidadi when it ends today evening after massive force mobilisation.

Besides, it was decided to check vehicles entering the Ramanagara headquarters and stop those who are coming to take part in the rally. A heavy Police deployment was made and more than 4,000 men were deployed in and around the Ijoor Circle and Reserve Police platoons camped at outskirts ready to rush in case of need.

Super-spreader event

Meanwhile, several Congress leaders participating in the rally have tested positive for COVID-19, sparking fears of a 'super spread' of the disease amid the densely-packed rally. Rajya Sabha Leader of Opposition Mallikarjuna Kharge, Congress leader Veerappa Moily and others have tested positive for the disease, while several others are down with COVID-like symptoms, such as fever.

Moily and Kharge had both been part of the inauguration ceremony for the *padyatra.* Former Minister H.M. Revanna, MLC C.M. Ibrahim, MLA N.H. Shivashankara Reddy also tested positive.

Former Bengaluru Mayor Gangambike Mallikarjun tested positive, along with other women leaders like Kamalakshi Rajanna and Manjula Manasa. MLA Lakshmi Hebbalkar is also down with fever. Shivakumar had refused to get tested upon the arrival of the district health official, telling him, 'Hey Mister, I am fit and fine'.

Are you totally incompetent to stop rally, HC asks Govt.

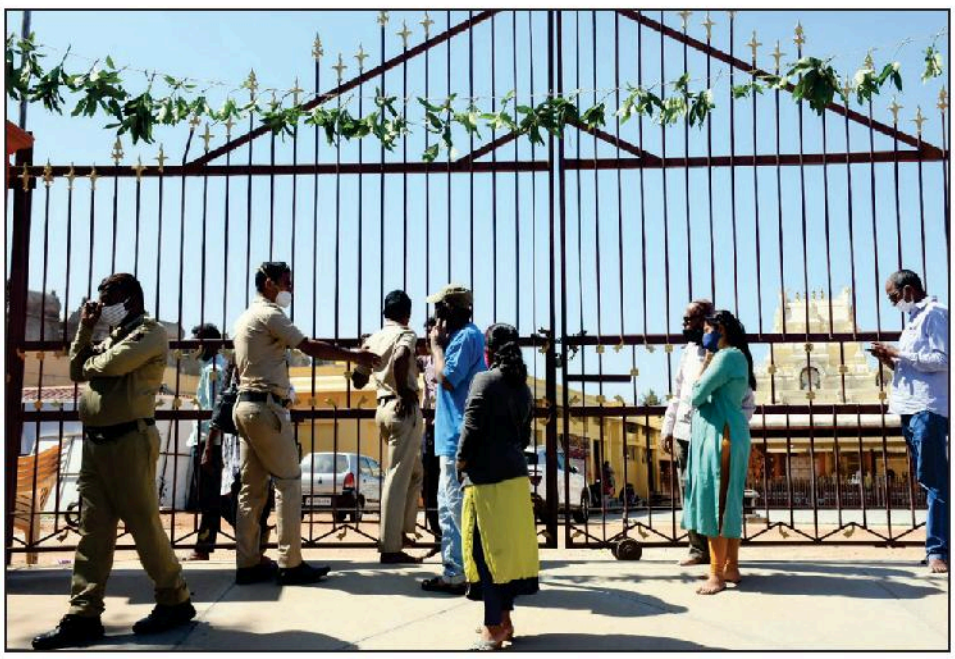
Yesterday, the Karnataka High Court questioned whether the State Government and its authorities were 'helpless and totally incompetent' to stop the *padayatra* when no permission was granted and the guidelines on COVID-19 prohibit such rallies and gatherings.

The Court directed the government to explain how it allowed the *padayatra* to take place and why appropriate action was not taken by the authorities to restrain the KPCC from carrying out the *padayatra*.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi and Justice Suraj Govindaraj issued the directions while hearing a PIL petition that questioned inaction on the part of the State Government in stopping the political rally when guidelines had clearly banned such activities. The Bench took up the petition for hearing on an urgent basis as petitioner's counsel cited health risk posed due to continuation of the rally.

"Do you mean to say that State authorities were helpless to stop the rally?" "What were you watching.... when permission was not granted... Are you (State authorities) totally incompetent to stop it knowing fully well that it was not in public interest in the present COVID-19 situation," the Bench questioned orally while asking whether the State Government and the DC of Ramanagara cannot act sans judicial orders.

Vaikunta Ekadashi: No entry to temples, devotees pray from outside



Mysuru, Jan.13 (RK&DM)- The *Vaikunta Ekadashi* festival was a simple affair today in the city, sans any fervour and gaiety, as the Government last week announced fresh COVID protocol and restrictions, disallowing the devotees from entering temples during festivals that are going to take place this month, as a safety and precautionary measure to check the spread of the pandemic.

As the prominent temples where *Vaikunta Ekadashi* used to be celebrated with fervour in the past years — Sri Venkataramanaswamy temple on KRS road in Vontikoppal and Lakshmi Narasimhaswamy temple on Kalidasa road — were shut today, the devotees were seen praying from outside the temples. However, the customary pujas and rituals took place in the presence of priests and the temple staff in both the temples.

Devotees who visited Sri Yoga Narasimhaswamy temple in Vijayanagar First Stage too had to pray from outside as the Police were deployed to restrict entry into the temple.

However, devotees lined up in moderate numbers at Uttara Dwara (North entrance) of Sri Datta Venkateshwara temple in Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Ashrama on Mysuru-Ooty road, one of the very few temples of the city that allowed entry for devotee with COVID appropriate behaviour.

After performance of customary rituals associated with *Vaikunta Ekadashi,* the Sri Datta Venkateshwara temple was opened for devotees from 7 am till 3 pm. After a brief break, the temple was opened again for the devotees from 3.30 to 9 pm. All the devotees were required to produce their vaccine certificate

of two doses and mandatorily wear mask for entering the temple. Also, devotees were sent only in groups of 50 at one time. There was no distribution of *Prasada* and *Teertha* as in the past.

Rs. 25 crore road repair grants create split in MCC

(Continued from page 1)

Getting wind of the windfall of Rs. 25 crore, a section of Corporators have written to the Deputy Commissioner and have alleged that only the roads under the jurisdiction of certain influential elected representatives are being repaired while a lot of other roads have been neglected. They have questioned preferential treatment meted out to only a few areas.

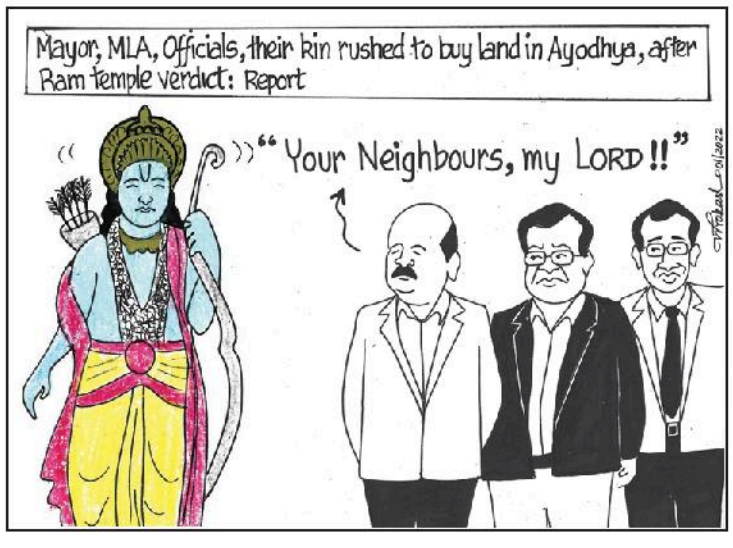
They have argued that the Rs. 25 crore special grants must be used across the 65 Wards. The signatories of the letter have demanded the DC to cancel the present action plan that is limited to only a few roads and prepare a new action plan that will comprise roads of all the 65 Wards.

The Corporators have alleged that at a time when all the roads of Mysuru are damaged due to rains and at a time when there is an urgent need to provide civic amenities like improving drainages, parks and circles, only a section of areas are getting special treatment while all the other roads and localities are being sidelined.

The action plan for Rs. 22.27 crore has been prepared and approval has been secured for the same. The works include repairs of Krishnaraja Boulevard to JLB Road, Narayana Shastry Road, Ramanuja Road till M.G. Road, Race Course Road, Vivekananda Circle Road, main roads of Aishwarya Nagar, Kuvempunagar Adichunchanagiri Road, Srirampura Road to Manandavadi Road, New Kantharaj Urs Road, Chitrabhanu Road, Vishwamanava Double Road, Saraswathipuram Fire Brigade Road and Gayatripuram Main Road.

TEASER

By N. Prakash



City Police issue guidelines for festivals

Mysuru, Jan. 13- With the COVID pandemic continuing to cause havoc across the State, the city Police have issued guidelines for celebration of festivals such as *Vaikunta Ekadashi* and *Sankranti* in the month of January.

Accordingly, pujas and other associated rituals concerning the respective festivals will be performed in accordance with customary practices only inside the temple precincts. Also, only such devotees who have received two doses of COVID vaccine will be allowed inside the temple in groups not exceeding 50 devotees at a time.

Sevas in temples are disallowed. Besides, processions, entertainment programmes or other such activities are not allowed. Legal action will be initiated against persons who are found violating the festival guidelines, according to a press release from the Office of the City Police Commissioner.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner, **Sri.K.A.Srinath,** [Aadhaar no.: 6885 6725 9992], S/o. Late K.S. Anantharama Rao, residing at no. T-004, 3rd Floor, S & S Temple View Apartment, 3rd Stage, Industrial Suburb, Vishweshwara-nagar, Khille Mohalla, Mysuru-570 008. If any person/s who claims any right, interest or title of any nature or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule Property or has any objections of any nature to the transaction should lodge or report such claim and / or objections in writing with supporting documents to the undersigned within **seven (7)** days from the date of publication of this notice. In the event of no such claims / objections have received it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsists and my client would proceed to purchase the Schedule Property as if no such claim or objections exists or that they have been waived or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the house property bearing no. 148/A, PID no. 65605, measuring East to West 18.00 Meter and North to South 12.00 Meter. in total 216.00 Square Meter, along with Ground Floor residential building, situated in 'A' Zone, 3rd Stage, Nachanahalli Kuppaluru Layout, Khille Mohalla, Mysuru and the house is bounded on East by : Site no. 147 and 147/A, West by : Road, North by: Property belongs to MUDA, South by : Site no. 148.

Sd/- **K.N. Mahadeva Swamy**
B.Sc., L.L.B., Advocate & Notary,
Room No. 1 & 2, Allama Prabhu Krupa Commercial Complex. First Floor, 5th Cross, Ramanuja Road, Mysore - 570 004.
Mobile No. 94482 22522;
Office No. 0821-4287998.

Date : 12-01-2022

MYSORE TRAIN TIMINGS

FROM MYSURU RAILWAY STATION TOWARDS KSR BENGALURU

Train No.	From Station	To Station	Mysuru Departure	Bengaluru Arrival	Days of Service	
16586	Mangaluru	KSR Bengaluru	03.15	06.15	Mon, Wed & Fri	Fully reserved
12610	Mysuru	Chennai	05.00	07.45	Daily	Fully reserved
16217	Mysuru	Shirdi	05.30	07.55	Monday	Fully reserved
17326	Mysuru	Belagavi	05.50	08.40	Daily	Unreserved
06256	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	06.10	09.15	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
16215	Mysuru	Bengaluru	06.45	09.35	Daily	Unreserved
16229	Mysuru	Varanasi	07.20	09.55	Tue & Thu	Fully reserved
16023	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	08.10	11.00	Daily	Unreserved
07345	Chamarajanagar	KSR Bengaluru	09.05	13.15	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
12975	Mysuru	Jaipur	10.30	12.55	Thu & Sat	Fully reserved
12578	Mysuru	Darbhanga	10.30	13.35	Friday	Fully reserved
12613	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	11.30	14.00	Daily	Partially unreserved
16315	Mysuru	Kochuveli	12.50	16.35	Daily	Fully reserved
17307	Mysuru	Bagalkot	13.25	16.35	Daily	Partially unreserved
06258	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	13.45	16.55	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
12008	Mysuru	MGR Chennai	14.15	16.10	Daily Except Wed	Shatabdi Express
16557	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	14.30	17.20	Daily	Unreserved
12786	Mysuru	Kacheguda	15.15	17.40	Daily	Fully reserved
16535	Mysuru	Solapur	15.45	18.35	Daily	Partially unreserved
16232	Mysuru	Mayiladuturai	16.30	18.50	Daily	Fully reserved
16219	Chamarajanagar	Tirupati	16.55	20.20	Daily	Fully reserved
16236	Mysuru	Tuticorin	18.20	20.55	Daily	Fully reserved
16592	Mysuru	Hubballi	18.35	21.40	Daily	Partially unreserved
16210	Mysuru	Ajmer	19.00	22.10	Tue & Thu	Fully reserved
16227	Mysuru	Talguppa	19.30	22.55	Daily	Partially unreserved
22681	Mysuru	Chennai	20.10	22.50	Wednesday	Fully reserved
16022	Mysuru	Chennai	21.00	23.45	Daily	Fully reserved
06560	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	22.20	01.15	Daily	Unreserved
11065	Mysuru	Renigunta	22.55	01.30	Friday	Fully reserved
22818	Mysuru	Howrah	23.45	02.00	Sunday	Fully reserved

STAR OF MYSORE Service to readers

DEPARTING FROM KSR BENGALURU AND ARRIVING MYSURU

Train No.	From Station	To Station	Bengaluru Departure	Mysuru Arrival	Days of Service	
22817	Howrah	Mysuru	01.10	03.45	Sunday	Fully reserved
16218	Shirdi	Mysuru	01.50	04.40	Thursday	Fully reserved
06559	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	02.05	05.15	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
16021	Chennai	Mysuru	04.00	06.40	Daily	Fully reserved
16220	Tirupati	Chamarajanagar	04.30	07.00	Daily	Fully reserved
16228	Talguppa	Mysuru	05.05	08.20	Daily	Partially unreserved
22682	Chennai	Mysuru	05.25	08.00	Friday	Fully reserved
16231	Mayiladuturai	Mysuru	06.00	09.10	Daily	Fully reserved
16591	Hubballi	Mysuru	06.00	08.45	Daily	Partially unreserved
12785	Kacheguda	Mysuru	06.45	09.35	Daily	Fully reserved
16235	Tuticorin	Mysuru	07.15	10.20	Daily	Fully reserved
16536	Solapur	Mysuru	07.30	10.45	Daily	Fully reserved
16316	Kochuveli	Mysuru	08.35	11.20	Daily	Fully reserved
06257	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	09.20	12.45	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
06567	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	10.30	13.20	Daily	Unreserved
12007	MGR Chennai	Mysuru	10.50	13.00	Daily Except Wed	Shatabdi Express
17308	Bagalkot	Mysuru	11.15	14.10	Daily	Partially unreserved
16024	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	13.00	16.15	Daily	Unreserved
12976	Jaipur	Mysuru	13.15	15.55	Wed & Fri	Fully reserved
12614	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	15.15	17.45	Daily	Partially unreserved
07346	KSR Bengaluru	Chamarajanagar	15.35	18.35	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
12577	Darbhanga	Mysuru	17.15	20.00	Thursday	Fully reserved
17325	Belagavi	Mysuru	17.45	20.40	Daily	Partially unreserved
16216	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	18.15	21.05	Daily	Unreserved
06255	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	19.00	22.10	Daily	Unreserved
12609	Chennai	Mysuru	19.50	22.50	Daily	Fully reserved
16585	KSR Bengaluru	Mangaluru	20.30	23.00	Wed, Fri & Sun	Fully reserved
16230	Varanasi	Mysuru	20.45	23.30	Mon & Sat	Fully reserved
11066	Renigunta	Mysuru	23.20	01.50	Saturday	Fully reserved
16209	Ajmer	Mysuru	23.30	02.15	Tue & Sun	Fully reserved

TOWARDS HASSAN, ARSIKERE, DAVANGERE, HAVERI, HUBBALLI, DADAR, NEW DELHI AND BACK

Train	From Station	To Station	Departure	Arrival	Days of Service	
16206	Mysuru	Talguppa	06.00	13.15	Daily	Partially unreserved
11036	Mysuru	Dadar	06.15	05.30 (next day)	Sunday (Mysuru)	Fully reserved
07313 (Express)	Mysuru	Yesvantpur	07.45	10.55 (Hassan)	Daily	Unreserved
06225	Mysuru	Shivamogga	10.15	16.25	Daily	Unreserved
06214	Mysuru	Arsikere	17.45	21.50	Daily	Unreserved
12781	Mysuru	Hazrat Nizamuddin	20.10 (Fri)	17.50 (Sun)	Friday	Fully reserved
17301	Mysuru	Dharwad	22.30	08.05	Daily	Partially unreserved
07302	Dharwad	Mysuru	21.05	07.20	Daily	Partially unreserved
06213	Arsikere	Mysuru	05.00	09.25	Daily	Unreserved
06226	Shivamogga	Mysuru	11.15	16.50	Daily	Unreserved
07314 (Express)	Yesvantpur	Mysuru	16.05 (Hassan)	19.40	Daily	Unreserved
11035	Dadar	Mysuru	21.30	21.40 (next day)	Thursday (Dadar)	Fully reserved
16205	Talguppa	Mysuru	15.00	22.15	Daily	Partially unreserved
12782	Hazrat Nizamuddin	Mysuru	05.10 (Mon)	03.30 (Wed)	Monday	Fully reserved

TOWARDS MYSURU TO CHAMARAJANAGAR AND BACK

Train	From Station	To Station	Departure	Arrival	Days of Service	
07327	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	05.00	06.35	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
16220	Tirupati	Chamarajanagar	07.20 (Mys)	09.10	Daily	Fully reserved
06233	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	09.15	10.55	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
07346	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	19.00	20.45	Daily	Unreserved
07345	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	07.15	08.50	Daily	Unreserved
16219	Chamarajanagar	Tirupati	15.30	16.45	Daily	Fully reserved
06234	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	17.00	18.40	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
07328	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	21.30	23.10	Daily Passenger	Unreserved

MCC's two vision groups

Solid Waste Management and Beautifying Parks

By Bhamy V. Shenoy and S. Shobana

During the short period that Shilpa Nag served as Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Commissioner, two vision groups were formed despite the pandemic.

Vision of the first one is to make Mysuru free of Single Use Plastic (SUP) through people-driven movement to have cleaner streets, free flowing storm water drains, garbage-free parks and communities. **Vision of the second** is to re-establish Mysuru as a Garden City by developing all 520 parks. Vision documents elaborated the short, medium and long term action plans along with goals and strategies. Input was sought even from non-members with expertise to refine these documents.

The inaugural meeting was online because of the pandemic. It took place on Apr. 24, 2021. Members of both these groups headed by the Commissioner were mostly activists from Mysore Grahakara Parishat (MGP), Clean Mysuru, Namma Mysuru, Kotivriksha, experts and MCC staff.

Unfortunately, Shilpa Nag could not implement them because of her untimely and unfortunate transfer. Only on Dec. 21, 2021 serious efforts were started under the leadership of G. Lakshmikantha Reddy, her successor.

The Commissioner wanted the vision group to take up the issue of keeping Mysuru clean by handling the more comprehensive issue of garbage rather than dealing with only SUP. It was decided to start initially to take up five pilot Wards in Yadavagiri, Jayalakshmipuram, Gokulam and N.R. Mohalla, involving the local Corporators.

It was also decided to get the active involvement of the younger generation through the active participation of students in high schools and colleges.

Despite all the efforts of MCC — educating the public on the need to segregate, imposing fines for their failure to do so, providing different bins to store segregated garbage, wide publicity given to cleanliness programmes, etc. — in most Wards, segregation is still not taking place.

When fines are imposed, the public express their dissent to their Corporators, who in turn force the MCC staff to waive the penalty. **It was clear that unless there is whole-hearted public participation, it is not possible to keep Mysuru clean.**

Though there is already a Health Committee which is looking after SWM, it was agreed that every effort will be made to have a separate Committee (Mysuru Committee for Cleanliness) headed by the Mayor, to take up exclusively the SWM, in order to work towards keeping the city clean.

To stop people throwing garbage anywhere and everywhere, efforts will be made to install CCTV and to impose heavy penalties without any exception.

Unlike in the case of SWM, there is not much funds available in the Horticulture Department, for maintaining the listed 520 parks (although the actual number may exceed 700) in the city. Equally worse is the manpower situation in the Horticulture Department. SWM has a group of enthusiastic young environmental engineers who feel the urge to make a difference. But the Horticulture Department lacks this.

A good beginning has been made to make an inventory of all parks in the city. One can get information on most of the known parks through a Google map.

If Mysureans are really interested in beautifying the city and making it a garden city again, we should convince the MCC Council to allocate the necessary funds and manpower for maintenance of the parks.

NGOs present in the meeting of the vision group have agreed to make an attempt to contact potential donors to adopt parks. On its part, MCC will try to recruit volunteers to serve as Park Wardens for each Ward. At least two to three may be required for each Ward depending upon the layout and size of the Ward.

If MCC is successful in implementing a Park Warden programme, a new beginning would be made to beautify the city. To attract volunteers, it is useful to appreciate the selfless work done by a tree-lover, Srikanth of Kotivriksha Pratishtana, who has adopted a MUDA park in Srirampura and is ready to adopt two more parks. If we get committed individuals like him to come forward to act as Park Wardens, Mysuru would doubtless become again a Garden City.

[Bhamy V. Shenoy is Founder-Working-President of MGP and S. Shobana, former Working President of MGP]

Child Labour Survey: MP inaugurates workshop for Labour Inspectors and Representatives

Mysuru, Jan.13 (PM&DM)- Emphasising on the need for all Labour Officers to have a thorough understanding of Anti-Child Labour Law, MP Pratap Simha said that the job of Labour Officers is not limited just to disposal of files, but also to educate parents on the Constitutional rights of children.

He was speaking after inaugurating a one-day training workshop on Child Labour and Teen Labour Survey for Labour Inspectors and representatives of Voluntary organisations jointly organised by the District Administration and Labour Department at Chamundeshwari auditorium in Regional Commissioner's Office on Hunsur road here this morning.

Maintaining that treatment of all children just like our own will help in addressing child labour and teen labour issues, Simha opined that all parents dream of seeing their wards in high posts and in this backdrop, sensitising the society on Anti-Child Labour Law is important.

Expressing concern over child marriages among tribal communities, the MP maintained that bringing tribals to the mainstream society will help a lot in eradicating such practices.

Referring to ban on plastics, Simha said that it is regretful to note that banned plastics are being continued to be used in agricultural activities.

Pointing out that the PDOs must educate the farmers against use of plastics, he said that 'Swachh Bharat Mission' grants can be used for the purpose.

Earlier, Assistant Labour Commissioner Nazia Sultana, who delivered the keynote address, bemoaned that child labour has not been completely eradicated in the country despite best efforts.

Observing that officials must accurately interpret the provisions under Anti-Child labour Law, she said that the parents must be sensitised on the rights that the constitution has bestowed upon children.

Emphasising on the role of Labour Officers in the eradication of the societal evil of child labour, she contended that they should also follow up on the future of rescued children.

She said that the Department has set up a 24x7 child line-1098 for issues concerning child abuse, missing children, child labour, child beggary, drug addicted children, physically and mentally retarded children, abandoned children, migratory children, child trafficking and child marriage. On the dates of survey, Nazia Sultana said that the dates are not fixed as of now. Pointing out that teams will be formed for child and teen labour survey, she said that the Deputy Commissioner will be sought for fixing the schedule. The survey which will be of one-month duration will be taken up once the DC announces the dates, she added.

People face long lines as they rush to get tested for COVID

Mysuru, Jan. 13 (MTY&BCT)- Business travel, family gatherings and the rapid surge of COVID-19 and the new Coronavirus cases triggered by the Omicron variant, are driving huge demand for RT-PCR tests, leaving people scrambling.

The result so far has been around-the-block lines at testing sites. Since the last three or four days there has been a huge demand for tests and the increasing number of cases has contributed to the test spike.

On their part, the administration is expanding testing capacity and is taking steps to cope with the twin imperatives of increased tests and timely results as cases spike. The pressure has been building by the day with increasing numbers of people showing symptoms heading to tests to rule out or confirm the infection and many others needing a negative test to travel, attend office or enter restricted venues.

Since the last few months, the Health Department has been appealing to people to undergo COVID tests but the response has been poor. But now, a slight illness and common cold is driving people to testing centres and most of them are testing positive. This has become a headache to the Health Department and the District Administration.

There is a chill atmosphere in Mysuru and due to climate change and global warming, the temperatures will be slow for a few more days. Due to the weather condition, many are suffering from cold and light fever. Panicking, these people are rushing to the testing centres.

In the city, testing is being carried out at Town Hall, K.R. Hospital, District Hospital and Primary Health Centres. Till last week 2,000 tests were undertaken per day and the number now has increased to 7,000.

War room numbers

For any kind of health issue, contact Taluk COVID War Room at

0821-2414812

For emergencies contact Tahsildar

89716-52652

Taluk Panchayat CEO

94808-73100

Taluk Health Officer

97310-21569

MLA inaugurates hi-tech school building at Kallahalli

Nanjangud, Jan.13- Nanjangud MLA B. Harshavardhan on Tuesday inaugurated the newly built Hi-tech Government School building at Kallahalli in the taluk.

Speaking on the occasion, he said that Kallahalli Government Primary School building has been constructed by Nanjangud's Jubilant Generics Limited at a cost of Rs.1.40 crore out of CSR funds. The school building has 11 class rooms, a dining hall, a full-fledged Science Laboratory and smart class rooms, among other facilities.

Noting that Jubilant factory used to run a Primary Health Centre (PHC) at Kallahali, which was however shut down after some time, he said that following request from villagers, he has directed the factory authorities to continue the PHC.

Jubilant Generics Officer Subramanya said that the factory has engaged itself in Educational, Livelihood, Rural development and Health sectors, thus serving the society. Noting that initially the factory had planned to construct only one classroom at a cost of Rs.8 lakh, Harshavardhan said that now, 11 class rooms and other facilities have been built at a cost of Rs.1.40 crore.

WORD OF THE DAY

Finesse

Pronunciation: fuh-NESS.
Meaning: Finesse means "to handle, deal with, or do (something) in an indirect and skillful or clever way."
Origin: Finesse originally referred to refinement or delicacy of workmanship, structure, or texture; that sense is based on French fin, meaning "fine." In time, the noun was applied to the "delicate" handling of a situation. The related verb finesse had its start at gaming tables: if you finesse in a game like bridge or whist, you withhold your highest card or trump in the hope that a lower card will take the trick because the only opposing higher card is in the hand of an opponent who has already played. Similar uses of the verb implying skill and cleverness followed.
Example: "One of the most refreshing parts of the doc is the revelation that even the Beatles at their creative peak started off with some clunkers and finessed them into brilliant, lasting earworms we know and love today. The scrappy first take off 'I Got a Feeling' has nothing on the rollicking, perfect last take." — Brittany Wong

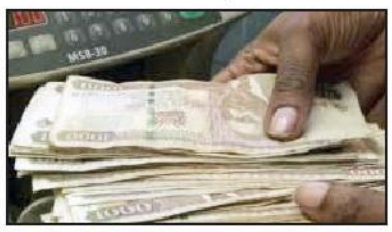
THE ODD WORD

Fanfaron

An empty boaster.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Feel the pinch



Meaning: The phrase 'feel the pinch' is used to say when a person or company isn't doing financially so well.
Origin: This phrase is from the mid 1800. Perhaps this phrase refers to the pinch that small children feel when they walk with small shoes because their parents cannot afford to buy them new ones.
Example: "The world economic issues have increased to the point where even the middle-class families are beginning to feel the pinch."

QUOTE BOX

The stroke of death is as a lover's pinch, which hurts and is desired.

—William Shakespeare

RIDDLE THIS

You measure my life in hours and I serve you by expiring. I'm quick when I'm thin and slow when I'm fat. The wind is my enemy.

Answer: A candle.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

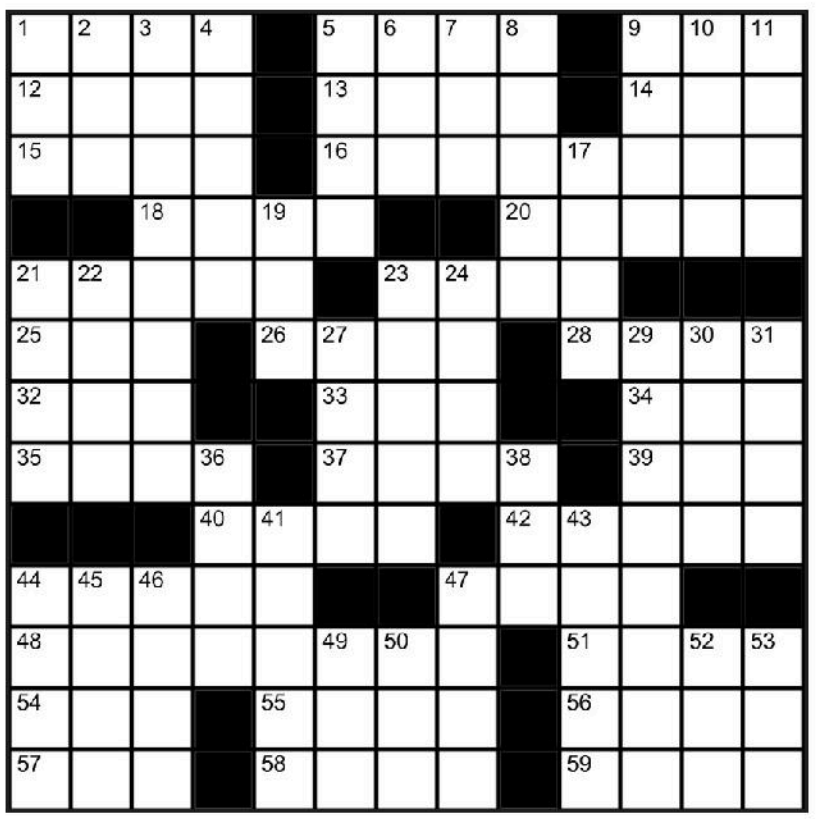
1 Star Trek baddies
5 Coup d' __ : change of power by non-democratic means?
9 LP successors
12 At any time
13 U2 frontman
14 Inlet for "air" change !
15 Ms Sinha of days gone by
16 ___ into effect: accomplishing?
18 Greek letters - "seat" changed?
20 Scoffs or jeers
21 Sharpened by whetting
23 Russian emperor of the past
25 Tolkien's tree like creature
26 A small stain
28 Oasis lead singer __ Gallagher
32 Very skilled person
33 Unseal - poetically speaking !
34 Elected rep.
35 Moon of Jupiter
37 One as a prefix; not a stereo
39 Might
40 Cuts off or severs
42 One of Tolkien's hobbits
44 German industrial city
47 Cigarette end
48 Outdo; surpass
51 Told falsehoods
54 Marshal at Waterloo
55 Other in Spanish
56 Otherwise
57 U-turn from NNW
58 Skin tumour
59 ___ about : begins or takes steps towards?

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

P	A	N	G	■	O	C	T	A	■	S	P	A
E	M	I	R	■	W	O	R	D	■	Y	A	P
S	A	L	A	■	N	U	I	S	A	N	C	E
O	N	E	S	T	E	P	■	O	N	O	■	■
■	■	■	P	O	D	■	T	R	I	P	L	E
A	M	B	E	R	■	J	O	B	■	S	O	W
L	O	A	D	■	Z	I	P	■	T	I	D	E
O	B	I	■	S	O	B	■	M	O	S	E	S
E	S	K	I	M	O	■	G	A	L	■	■	■
■	■	O	R	O	■	L	O	O	K	O	U	T
M	O	N	R	O	V	I	A	■	I	G	N	I
E	C	U	■	T	O	O	L	■	E	L	I	E
A	T	R	■	H	A	N	S	■	N	E	T	S

DOWN

1 British Empire Medal, abbr.
2 Egg cells
3 Softened or yielded
4 Scrape harshly
5 Declines; retreats
6 Rocky eminence
7 Black bird
8 Former Friendly Isles
9 Baby bed
10 Take dinner
11 Hangs loosely
17 Young female
19 Some promos
21 Effect a cure
22 Fairy tale beginning
23 A stock theme, especially in a literary work
24 British gun
27 Great splendour
29 Unable to move
30 As _ __ : as a child or youngster (1,3)
31 Salad dressing
36 Frothy drinks
38 Frequently
41 Being pulled (2,3)
43 Regulations
44 Long time periods
45 Takes to court
46 Eye complaint
47 Petty quarrel
49 Required Time of Arrival
50 Like some vbs.
52 Superlative suffix
53 Desmond's pet name?



SUDOKU

				1		4		
		4	8	7			6	
		6	3					9
8	7		2					
	3						4	
					3		1	7
9					8	2		
	8			2	5	1		
		2		3				

Answer to previous puzzle

7	3	8	4	5	1	6	2	9
5	9	2	7	6	8	1	4	3
1	6	4	9	3	2	8	5	7
6	8	3	2	7	4	9	1	5
9	4	1	3	8	5	7	6	2
2	5	7	6	1	9	3	8	4
3	2	9	1	4	6	5	7	8
4	1	5	8	9	7	2	3	6
8	7	6	5	2	3	4	9	1

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

ZUYO XFD FNUB XFNX DLNHDH PNU

KLMXD XFD XLGD XFMUS.

TODAY'S CLUE: S EQUALS G

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: The things we remember best are those better forgotten.

NOW SHOWING - MOVIES

- **Padma Theatre** Ph: 2521923
  Drishya 2 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Gayathri Theatre** Ph: 2443568
  Rider (K) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** Ph: 2420885
  Rider (K) - 4 Shows
- **Thibbadevi Theatre** Ph: 2452958
  Badava Rascal (K)- 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** Mob: 9900820093
  Badava Rascal (K)- 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** Ph: 2422871
  Badava Rascal (K)- 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** Ph: 2423554
  Pushpa: The Rise (Te) - 3 Shows
- **Sangam Theatre** Ph: 2520494
  Arjun Gowda (K) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** Ph: 2497199
  Antim: The Final Truth (H) - 4 Shows
- **Sterling Theatre** Ph: 2481170
  Huttu Habbada Shubhashayagalu (K)- 4 Shows
- **Uma Theatre** Ph: 2520009
  Rasik Balma (H) - 4 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Badava Rascal (K)	(S-1)	10.20 am, 7.00 pm
	(S-2)	1.20 pm, 4.10 pm
	(S-4)	1.15 pm
Spiderman No Way Home (3D-E)	(S-1)	1.05 pm, 4.05 pm
Spiderman No Way Home (2D-E)	(S-2)	6.55 pm
Enna Solla Pogirai (Ta)	(S-3)	10.30 am, 1.20 pm, 4.10 pm
83 (H)	(S-2)	10.20 am
	(S-4)	4.00 pm, 7.00 pm
Drishya 2 (K)	(S-3)	7.00 pm

INOX LIVE THE MOVIE — Ph: 2533444 / 2533456

83 (H)	(S-4)	10.20 am, 1.55 pm
	(S-3)	5.40 pm
Spider Man: No Way Home (3D-E)	(S-1)	2.50 pm, 6.10 pm
Rider (K)	(S-1)	11.30 am
Badava Rascal (K)	(S-2)	11.30 am, 6.30 pm
	(S-3)	2.35 pm
Pushpa - The Rise Part 1 (Te)	(S-4)	5.30 pm
Pushpa - The Rise Part 1 (H)	(S-2)	2.35 pm
	(S-3)	10.40 am

PVR CINEMAS

Forum Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139

83 (H)	:	11.15 am, 2.40 pm, 6.10 pm
Spider Man: No Way Home (E-3D)	:	11.00 am, 6.00 pm
Badava Rascal (K)	:	12.00 noon, 2.55 pm, 5.50 pm
Rider (K)	:	11.15 am
Pushpa - The Rise Part 1 (Te)	:	2.10 pm
Pushpa - The Rise Part 1 (K)	:	11.45 am
Pushpa - The Rise Part 1 (H)	:	5.20 pm
Love You Rachu (K)	:	2.20 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210

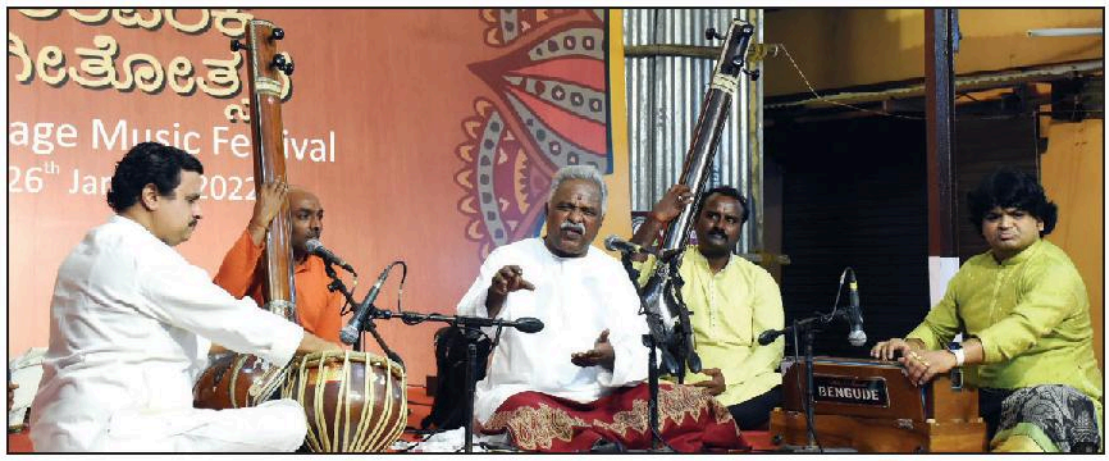
Badava Rascal (K)	:	11.00 am, 12.45 pm, 3.40 pm, 6.35 pm
Pushpa - The Rise Part 1 (H)	:	2.15 pm
Pushpa - The Rise Part 1 (Te)	:	11.15 am
Pushpa - The Rise Part 1 (K)	:	2.25 pm
83 (H)	:	11.00 am, 5.55 pm
Rider (K)	:	2.55 pm
Love You Rachu (K)	:	6.00 pm
Spider Man: No Way Home (E-3D)	:	6.05 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Badava Rascal (K)	(S-1)	10.35 am, 4.00 pm
	(S-4)	1.15 pm, 7.15 pm
Love You Rachu (K)	(S-1)	1.15 pm
Rider (K)	(S-4)	4.15 pm
Spider Man: No Way Home (E-3D)	(S-3)	6.45 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15 to the film announced here.

Pt. Venkatesh Kumar performs in city



Pt. Venkatesh Kumar presenting a vocal concert at 8th Cross, V.V. Mohalla, last evening as part of the 60th Heritage Music Festival organised by Sri Prasanna Vidya Ganapathi Mandali Charitable (SPVGMC) Trust. He is accompanied Pt. Keshav Joshi on tabla, Pt. Satish Kolli on harmonium, Pt. Ramesh Kumar Kolkunda and Pt. Niranjan on Tambura. Picture below shows a section of audience enjoying the music. Today (Jan. 13) at 6.15 pm, Vid. Sandeep Narayan will present a vocal concert accompanied by Vid. V.S. Gokul on violin, Vid. K.V. Prasad on mridanga and Vid. G.S. Ramanujam on ghata. [Only those who have taken two doses of COVID vaccine can attend the event]

EVENTS TODAY (JAN. 13)

- **District Kannada Sahitya Parishat, Mysuru:** 'Nudi Namana' to late Prof. Chandrashekar Patil, Dr. C.P. Krishnakumar (CPK), Prof. Kalegowda Nagawara, Prof. K.S. Bhagavan, Prof. Nilagiri Talawar, Dr. Ganesh Amingad, Manasa, Dr. M. Chandrashekar and Dr. Y.D. Rajanna, Sahitya Bhavan, Vijayanagar 1st Stage, **4 pm.**
- **Sri Venugopalaswamy Temple:** Puja, Shattumurai and Mahamangalarati, **5 pm to 6.30 pm;** Thiruppavai discourse by Vidu. Dr. K.L. Prasannakshi, retd. Sanskrit Professor, Maharani's Arts College, Mysuru, Temple premises, Tyagaraja Road, **6.30 pm.** [Mob: 99451-01480]
- **Sri Prasanna Vidya Ganapathi Mandali Charitable (SPVGMC) Trust:** 60th Heritage Music Festival, Kavya Vaachana, **5.15 pm;** Vocal concert by

Vid. Sandeep Narayan, accompanied by **Vid. V.S. Gokul** on violin, **Vid. K.V. Prasad** on mridanga and **Vid. G.S. Ramanujam** on ghata, 8th Cross, V.V. Mohalla, **6.15 pm.** [Only those who have taken two doses of COVID vaccine can attend the event]

- **Hebbar Sri Vaishnava Upasabha, K.R. Vanam and Sri Rama Mandira:** 'Thiruppavai Kalakshepa' (Thiruppavai discourse) by Dr. N.K. Ramasheshan, Sri Rama Mandira, Krishnamurthypuram, **6.15 pm to 7.30 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (JAN. 14)

- **Bharathiya Shikshan Mandal, Karnataka (Dakshin) Prant:** Inauguration of Mysuru District Unit, Col. (Prof.) Y.S. Siddegowda, President, Bharathiya Shikshana Mandala, Karnataka Prant presides, prelude by B.A. Subramnya, Akhila Bharathiya Saha Pramukh, Shaleya Prakalp, Bharathiya Shikshan Mandal, Thilak, Mysuru Vibhag Sahakaryavah, Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh delivers keynote address, Sarada Vilas Pharmacy College, Krishnamurthypuram, **5 pm.**
- **Sri Venugopalaswamy Temple:** Puja, Shattumurai and Mahamangalarati, **5 pm to 6.30 pm;** Thiruppavai discourse by Vidu. Dr. K.L. Prasannakshi, retd. Sanskrit Professor, Maharani's Arts College, Mysuru, Temple premises, Tyagaraja Road, **6.30 pm.** [Mob: 99451-01480]
- **Bharatiya Rangavidyalaya:** Foundation Day, special demonstration of 'Kalari' by students of 'Bharatiya Rangavidyalaya' led by Kerala's well-known 'Kalari' expert Vinod Kadangal, felicitation to martial arts expert and 'Sadhvi' Daily Founder C. Maheshwaran chief guest, Anju Singh, who hails from Manipur and now serving in Rangayana Mysuru for the past 32 years as a Kalari teacher, Rangayana Mysuru Director Addanda C. Cariappa presides, Rangayana Dy. Director Nirmala Mathapati and Bharatiya Rangavidyalaya Head S. Ramanath will be present, B.V. Karanth Rangachavadi, Rangayana premises, **5.30 pm.**
- **Hebbar Sri Vaishnava Upasabha, K.R. Vanam and Sri Rama Mandira:** 'Thiruppavai Kalakshepa' (Thiruppavai discourse) by Dr. N.K. Ramasheshan, Sri Rama Mandira, Krishnamurthypuram, **6.15 pm to 7.30 pm.**

PRO KABADDI

Today's Matches (JAN. 13)

Bengal Warriors Vs Tamil Thalaivas	7.30 pm
U Mumba Vs Puneri Paltan	8.30 pm

Tomorrow's Matches (JAN. 14)

Jaipur Pink Panthers Vs Patna Pirates	7.30 pm
Gujarat Giants Vs Bengaluru Bulls	8.30 pm

Yesterday's Results

Haryana Steelers	36
Withdraw	
UP Yoddha	36
Dabang Delhi	22
Lose to	
Bengaluru Bulls	61

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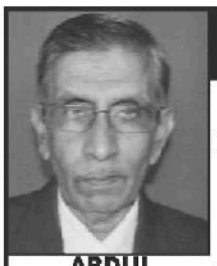
SAD DEMISE



ABDUL RAHMAN BASHA
(Senior Advocate & Notary) Mysore, 6.1.2022

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OBITUARY

C. Savithramma

W/o. Ex MLA Lt. Kempeeregowda and Mother of Shri. K. Umashankar (President - The Mysore Co-operative Bank Ltd.,) passed away today (13.1.2022)morning. funeral held today at Kuppegala Village, Mysuru.
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Printed by T.S. Gopinath and published by M. Govinde Gowda on behalf of Academy Newspapers Private Limited at Academy Newspapers Private Limited, 15-C, Industrial 'A' Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570 015. Editor: M. Govinde Gowda. Phone: 2496520 / 2496521 / 2496522 / 2496523 / 2496526 / 2496527 / 2496528. City offices: Visveshwaraya Building, III Floor, K.R. CIRCLE, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2431774 and No. 114, D.Devaraj Urs Road, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2428695, E-mail address: voice@starofmysore.com, For Advertisements: ad@starofmysore.com, RNI Reg. No. 29894/78.